



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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DTSC Honors Auto Shop for Pollution Prevention Efforts

Mountain View--- Citing the need for the state to recognize the efforts of small business to reduce the generation of hazardous waste by using environmentally-friendly techniques in the auto repair industry, Leonard Robinson, Chief Deputy Director of the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today commended and presented Larry Moore of Larry's AutoWorks with an official state certification as a Pollution Prevention (P2) "Model Shop". The presentation marks the first auto repair shop in Mountain View to receive the designation from DTSC.

The Model Shop certification is part of the DTSC's Vehicle Service Repair (VS) program, which provides free pollution prevention training and technical assistance to vehicle repair shops throughout the state in an effort to reduce the use of hazardous materials and the amounts of hazardous waste generated by the auto repair industry. The voluntary program provides opportunities to reduce operation costs and increase profits through using environmentally-friendly best management practices.

"Larry's AutoWorks has received several national, state, and local environmental awards, including the Susanne B. Wilson Environmental Achievement Award and has been a member of DTSC's Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee. The designation as a Model Shop is well deserved," said Robinson. "Mr. Moore has been a leader in the auto repair industry and a forceful advocate for environmental, economic and worker safety benefits that result from utilizing pollution prevention techniques and training," Robinson added.

To become a DTSC P2 Model Shop, an auto repair facility must fulfill a set of requirements which reduce the amount of hazardous waste generated in their shop. The requirements are:

- Completion of pollution prevention training developed by DTSC
- Completion of a pollution prevention assessment of maintenance activities at the facility and implementation of required pollution prevention processes
- Receive a score of at least 100 points on the pollution prevention Model Shop checklist
- Resolve any environmental violations which may be occurring at the repair facility

Larry's AutoWorks, located at 2526 Leghorn Drive in Mountain View, received the designation for using aqueous cleaning systems instead of solvents, hydrophobic mops to clean up floor spills instead of disposable absorbents, and providing training to its workers on other ways to reduce the amount of hazardous waste generated by operations in the shop.

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The auto shop has contributed to pollution prevention in the Silicon Valley by reducing the amount of solid and hazardous waste generated, reducing toxic and smog-forming air emissions, and stopping contaminated water from entering surface waters.

Under Mr. Moore's stewardship, his auto shop has implemented the following pollution prevention practices:

- Replaced solvent cleaner with an aqueous cleaning system for parts and brakes
- Prevents spills through employee training and the use of simple methods such as using funnels to transfer liquids and secondary containment to store hazardous waste
- Eliminated the use of disposable absorbents for spills and instead uses dry shop floor cleanup methods and hydrophobic mops
- Buys in bulk and uses refillable bottles for frequently used products
- Selects less toxic products when possible
- Sealed floors in the shop
- Eliminated floor drains
- Passed verification inspection by DTSC

Statewide, 54 facilities, including individual auto repair shops, local governments, corporations, state garages, and automobile dealerships have achieved P2 Model Shop status over the past three years as a result of participation in DTSC VSR program.

Addition information regarding the VSR program and VSR training materials are available on the DTSC Web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/VSR or by calling 1-800-700-5854.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.